

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213349

FOR AMBASSADOR SCRANTON

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 213349 ACTION BANGKOK GENEVA INFO HONG
KONG MANILA SINGAPORE KUALA LUMPUR TOKYO AUG 27.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213349

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES: BOAT CASES

REFERENCE: A. GENEVE 6806; B. KUALA LUMPUR 4928

1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM
FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE UNHCR REGIONAL MEETING IN BANGKOK
WILL BE INDOCHINESE BOAT CASES. SUGGEST GENEVA BRIEF
JAEGER ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE CONTAINED
REF B.

2. AS A PART OF UNHCR'S CONTINUING APPEAL FOR HUMANE TREAT-
MENT OF BOAT CASES, REQUEST MISSION URGE HIGH COMMISSIONER
TO CONSIDER INSTRUCTING ONE OR MORE OF HIS SENIOR STAFF
WHO WILL BE AT THIS MEETING TO CALL ON SOUTHEAST ASIA
GOVERNMENTS AND URGE THEIR COOPERATION WITH THE APPEAL.

3. OBVIOUSLY, A MAJOR ELEMENT IN THE BOAT CASE PROBLEM WHICH
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THE MEETING MIGHT CONSIDER IS THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR A WELL
STAFFED AND FORCEFUL UNHCR PRESENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AS
POINTED OUT REPEATEDLY BY SEVERAL SEA POSTS. WE SUGGEST
UNHCR MEETING MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER PROPOSAL REF B THAT LOCAL

UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE ASSUME INITIATIVE IN CALLING TOGETHER
MEETINGS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE RE-
CEIVED UNHCR APPEAL RE PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT IN ORDER TO
COORDINATE THEIR EFFORTS AND SHARE INFORMATION.

4. FOR BANGKOK: EMBASSY BANGKOK SHOULD PROVIDE LOCAL
UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE BERTE WITH CURRENT INFORMATION ON
BOAT CASE PROBLEM FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE MEETING'S
PARTICIPANTS. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

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